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158. (New)

The method of Claim 136 wherein the step of

forming cambered-sectioned cell bars from a strap further includes sewing together two lengths of strapping material.

REMARKS

Amendment Of The Claims

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This preliminary amendment cancels all claims in the parent application as originally filed, and adds new claims 144-158.

In the parent application, i.e. Serial No. 09/051,326 filed January 11, 1999, a Preliminary Amendment dispatched to the United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") on May 20, 1999, canceled claims 1-143 and added claims 144-247 to the parent application. Subsequently, on March 21, 2000, an Election/Restriction requirement issued for the parent application which:

1. declared that:
 - a. pending claims 144-241 belonged to a first group, while
 - b. pending claims 242-247 belonged to a second group; and
2. required that the applicant elect for prosecution one of the two groups of claims.

A response to the March 21, 2000, Election/Restriction requirement filed April 18, 2000, Paper No. 11:

1. elected to prosecute the parent application's first group of claims, i.e. claims 144-241; and

2. attempted to traverse the Election/Restriction requirement.

An Examiner's Action dated July 3, 2000, Paper No. 12, made the requirement for restriction final.

A table set both below correlates claims 242-247 that were subject to the Election/Restriction requirement in the parent patent application with new claims presented in this Preliminary amendment.

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<u>Parent Application Claim Number</u>		<u>Preliminary Amend- ment Claim Number</u>
242	-	144
243	-	145
244	-	146
245	-	147
246	-	148
247	-	150

The structure encompassed by new claim 149 is at least disclosed in FIGs. 42b and 42c of the parent patent application as originally filed, and in the text describing those FIGs. The orientation of lift vectors encompassed by new claim 149 is at least disclosed in FIGs. 12 and 43 of the parent patent application as originally filed, and in the text describing those FIGs.

The subject matter encompassed by new method claims 153 is at least disclosed in FIGs. 1, 2, 39, 57 and 58 of the patent application as originally filed, and in the text describing those FIGs.

The subject matter encompassed by new method claims 154 and 155 is at least disclosed in FIGs. 33 and 37 of the patent applica-

tion as originally filed, and in the text describing those FIGs. beginning on page 33 of the parent patent application and continuing onto page 35 thereof.

The subject matter encompassed by new method claims 156-158 is at least disclosed in FIGs. 42d, 42e, 49, 51, 52a and 52b, and in the text describing those FIGs.

For the reasons set forth above, claims 144-158 added by this Preliminary Amendment add no new matter to the parent patent application as originally filed.

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Amendments To The Specification

Page 1 of the specification is amended in accordance with Manual of Patent Examining Procedure ("MPEP") § 201.11.

Page 37, line 10 is being amended to correct a spelling error.

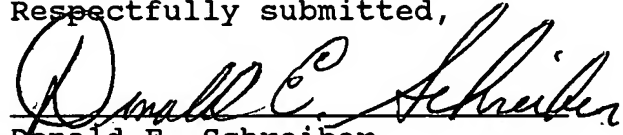
The remaining amendments to the specification set forth above repeat amendments made to the specification of the parent application, i.e. Serial No. 09/051,326 filed January 11, 1999, during the prosecution thereof by amendments to page 11, line 1, and to page 18. lines 15, 18, 22, 23 and 25 that were included in a response to an Examiner's Action that was dispatched to the USPTO on October 3, 2000.

Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments set forth above, and prompt examination and passage to issue of the application as so amended.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Date December 28, 2001

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2001-12-28 14:00:00